

IN THE CLAIMS:

Amend claim 16 as follows:

16. (AMENDED) A collagen preparation for the controlled release of active substance which comprises at least one active substance and [mixtures] a mixture of acid-insoluble collagen-fractions each fraction having a [with] different mean molecular weight [distributions] and said fractions being obtained by alkaline decomposition.

Claim 17, line 2, delete "different" and insert therefor --a plurality of--.

Claim 18, line 1, change "at least one" to --an--;

line 5, change "and" to a comma (,); after "fillers" insert --and mixtures thereof--.

Claim 21, line 2, delete "small".

Claim 22, line 2, after "forms" insert --of the collagen--.

Claim 24, line 2, change "mixtures" to --a mixture--.

Claim 25, line 2, delete "influenced and";

line 3, after "different" insert --mean--; change "weight distributions" to --weights--.

Claim 26, line 2, after "and" insert --subsequent--.

REMARKS

Further and favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

As an initial comment, Applicants note the Examiner's objection to the disclosure set forth at page 4 of the Official Action, the second paragraph. Here the Examiner has objected to the citation of U.S. Patent No. 4,409,332 at page 2, line 6 of the specification. This citation is correct. However, the citation of this reference (AF) by Applicant on the submitted form PTO-1449 is incorrect as the result of a typographical error. Thus, the Jefferies et al. patent cited as Reference AF by the Applicant should be U.S. Patent No. 4,409,332. The Examiner is respectfully requested to correct this citation on the file copy of Applicant's form PTO-1449. It is noted, in this respect, that the correct patent copy has been supplied to the Examiner.